

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)

SUBJECT: Payment of Medical Expenses

-9 DEC 1952

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1. [REDACTED] Training Officer, GS-11, is a staff employee assigned to the Far East Division and until recently was stationed [REDACTED]. With the concurrence of the Medical Office he was evacuated to Washington, D. C. where he has undergone two operations for the removal of a brain tumor, one on 25 November 1952 and the other on the following day. Since the operations [REDACTED] has made good progress and is expected to be discharged from George Washington University Hospital in about ten days. He had approximately 100 days sick leave accumulated at the beginning of his illness.

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2. [REDACTED] has indicated that sometime during the month of October 1952 a porch roof collapsed and struck him on the head during [REDACTED] and that this presumably was a contributing factor to the difficulty he has experienced. The Medical Office believes that the brain tumor was of a congenital type and doubts if the incident [REDACTED] has any particular bearing on the subsequent developments. With due respect to this opinion, however, action is currently being taken to have the necessary claim forms completed for transmittal to the Bureau of Employees' Compensation so as to obtain a positive determination of coverage under the U. S. Employees' Compensation Act.

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3. A determination is indicated at this point as to the extent to which the Agency properly should defray the hospital and medical expenses involved. Bills which have been rendered to date include:

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[REDACTED]	\$338.05
[REDACTED]	25.50
[REDACTED]	51.00
		<u>\$414.55</u>

In addition to those listed, there is a third special nursing service bill yet to be presented. The Medical Office has already advanced \$100.00 out of its special funds to be applied to hospital expenses and expects to pay a further portion of the \$338.05. The Medical Office also expects to pay the fees of the surgeon and attending physician.

4. It is recommended that the Medical Office be instructed to defray the entire surgical, hospital, medical, and nursing costs of this case, utilizing the special Medical Office funds now provided for certain types of emergency cases or any other special fund appropriate to the case. Should the Bureau of Employees' Compensation consider favorably the claim, reimbursement could be effected. Consideration has been given to [REDACTED] financial status and the fact that he carries no hospitalization or surgical insurance. As a matter of principle, however, our recommendation would be the same in either case.

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5. It is further recommended that it be established policy of the Agency to provide necessary hospitalization in cases of personnel incurring injury or illness while serving overseas, regardless of whether the disability is incurred while engaged in the performance of official duties. This proposed policy is based upon the theory that an employee overseas is in a duty status 24 hours a day and, consequently, is a responsibility of the Agency at all times.

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[REDACTED] This authority corresponds to that which has been granted the Foreign Service of the Department of State and which provides similar care for members of that Service while stationed abroad. The Armed Services, of course, would assume complete responsibility in similar cases whether or not the injured member was in or outside the United States. A policy such as is herein recommended would not preclude the filing of appropriate claims with the Bureau of Employees' Compensation under the U. S. Employees' Compensation Act for illnesses or injuries actually incurred in the performance of official duty.

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[REDACTED]
Assistant Director (Personnel)

CONCURRENCES:

General Counsel

SEE MEMO ATTACHED
Chief, Medical Office

Date: _____

Date: 23 DEC 52

ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY:

a. With respect to Par. 4: Approved ~~Disapproved~~ ~~Exceptions (if any)~~

b. With respect to Par. 5: Approved ~~Disapproved~~ ~~Exceptions (if any)~~

Date: _____

WALTER REID WOLF
Deputy Director
(Administration)

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